

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Art Unit: 2624

Rhoads et al.

Confirmation No.: 4999

Application No.: 10/823,997

Filed: April 13, 2004

VIA Electronic Filing

For: PORTABLE DEVICES AND
METHODS EMPLOYING DIGITAL
WATERMARKING

Examiner: E. Rice

Date: January 30, 2009

STATEMENT RESPONDING TO REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

This statement is filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.104(e) ("Reasons for Allowance"), and is responsive to the Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter in the Notice of Allowability dated October 31, 2008.

Applicant respectfully submits that the allowability of the claims does not hinge on isolated elements thereof. Rather, the claims are believed patentable because, when viewed as a whole, they define combinations that are neither anticipated by, nor obvious over, the prior art.

Date: January 30, 2009

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Respectfully submitted,

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